

Message Text

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15

ACTION ORM-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 DHA-02 L-03 AID-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

OMB-01 ITFE-00 /049 W

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R 100847Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1046

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 19004

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, LA, TH

SUBJECT: LAO REFUGEE PROBLEMS

1. I SAW BOTH FORMER DEFMIN SISOUK NA CHAMPASSAK AND GENERAL KOUPRASITH ABHAY YESTERDAY. KOUPRASITH PLANS TO BE HERE ABOUT TWO WEEKS AND RETURN TO FRANCE. SISOUK LEAVES ON SEPTEMBER 10 FOR PARIS. BOTH WERE VERY DISCOURAGED BY THE TREATMENT BEING METED OUT TO LAO REFUGEES BY THE THAI AUTHORITIES AND KOUPRASITH IS URGING ALL FORMER MILITARY MEN TO GO TO FRANCE. HE IS CONFIDENT THAT FRENCH ENTRY CAN BE ARRANGED FOR A NUMBER OF THEM AND SAYS THAT THE LAO/FRENCH FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION IS WELL ORGANIZED AND CAN TAKE CARE OF LODGING AND HELP IN FINDING WORK.

2. KOUPRASITH REPORTED THAT NGON SANANIKONE SAW CHATCHAI SEPTEMBER 1 AND WAS ASSURED THAT HE WOULD BE ALLOWED TO STAY IN THAILAND. ON THE 8TH HE RECEIVED OFFICIAL NOTICE THAT HE HAD TO LEAVE WITHIN 48 HOURS. PHOUI SANANIKONE RECEIVED AN IDENTICAL NOTICE. KOUPRASITH, WHO IS A SHREWD OPERATOR, BELIEVES THAT THE THAI ARE GOING TO EXPEL ALL OF THE LAO NON-COMMUNISTS WHO HAVE BEEN "TRIED" AND FOUND GUILTY

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OF TREASON AND OTHER CRIMES.

3. BOTH SISOUK AND KOUPRASIT MENTIONED RUMORS IN THE LAO REFUGEE COMMUNITY THAT A COUP LED BY THE "ANTI-VIET" FACTION OF THE PATHET LAO WAS TO TAKE PLACE ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 9TH. THEY BELIEVE THIS REPORT MAY BE A PROVOCATION TO SEE WHAT ACTION IS TAKEN BY THE LAO IN THAILAND.

WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO19004
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750312-1225
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750964/aaaacedb.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ORM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LAO REFUGEE PROBLEMS
TAGS: SREF, LA, TH
To: VIENTIANE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006